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Chairman: Mr. de Rojas ..... (Venezuela)

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97-83409 (E)

The meeting was called to order at 11.05 a.m.

Agenda item 95: Macroeconomic policy questions *(continued)*

(a) Financing of development, including net transfer of resources between developing and developed countries *(continued)* (A/C.2/52/L.4 and A/C.2/52/L.48)

Draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.48: Global financial flows and their impact on the developing countries

1. **Mr. Abdellatif** (Egypt), Vice-Chairman, introducing draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.48, which had been formulated on the basis of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.4, proposed the deletion of the square brackets around the phrase "sustained economic growth and sustainable development" in the fifth preambular paragraph, so that the Committee could adopt the draft resolution.

2. **Ms. Priantigagarin** (Indonesia) said that, in paragraph 10, line 4, the word "with" should be replaced by "within", and that in paragraph 11, line 1, the word "Baking" should be replaced by "Banking".

3. **Mr. Winnick** (United States of America) said that he could not join the consensus, and requested a vote on the draft resolution. His delegation would vote against. Speaking in explanation of vote before the vote, he recalled that in 1992, at the Earth Summit, Governments had adopted a programme of action for sustainable development worldwide. The importance of the concept had subsequently been reaffirmed many times. Sustained economic growth was only one component of sustainable development, together with social development and environmental protection. Yet since the Rio Conference, some Governments had tried to achieve sustained economic growth at the expense of social development and environmental protection. Their efforts had never been sustainable. His Government could not accept the equation of the concepts of sustained economic growth and sustainable development, as did the text of the draft resolution before the Committee.

4. **Mr. Mwakapugi** (United Republic of Tanzania), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that he was willing to adopt the draft resolution since, in his view, it was important to establish a link between sustained economic growth and sustainable development.

5. **Mr. Hidayat** (Indonesia) said that his delegation attached great importance to the draft resolution but that, in view of the recent financial upsets in Asia, he regretted that it was necessary to proceed to a vote owing to certain points on which there was disagreement.

6. *At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.48, as orally revised.*

In favour:

Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining:

None.

7. *Draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.48, as orally revised, was adopted by 147 votes to 2*[*].

8. **Mr. Powles** (New Zealand) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, and regretted that it had not been adopted by consensus.

9. **Mr. Meyer** (Luxembourg), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution. He reaffirmed the importance of the concept of sustainable development, of which the three components of economic development, social development and environmental protection were interdependent and mutually reinforcing. He regretted the failure to find a compromise solution and that it had been necessary to take a vote.

10. **Mr. Bahamondes** (Canada) said that his delegation shared the concern of New Zealand and the European Union regarding the lack of consensus. His delegation fully supported the multidimensional conception of development, on which Agenda 21 was based, and had voted in favour of the draft resolution. It would similarly vote in favour of all the draft resolutions on sustainable development before the Committee.

11. **Mr. Choulkov** (Russian Federation) said that he had voted in favour of the draft resolution. His delegation attached great importance to the question of sustainable development and regretted that it had been necessary to adopt draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.48 by a vote.

12. **Mr. Kvalheim** (Norway) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution, but regretted the lack of a consensus. He emphasized that any form of development – economic or other – should take place in the context of sustainable development, as defined in the Agenda for Development.

13. **Mr. Okada** (Japan) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution while deploring the fact that it had had to be put to the vote. It believed, however, that the phrase "sustained economic growth and sustainable development" in the fifth preambular paragraph was not in keeping with the concept of sustainable development previously agreed upon, which emphasized the three components of sustainable development enumerated by the delegation of Luxembourg.

14. **Mr. Özüergin** (Turkey) said that his delegation, which had voted in favour of the draft resolution, shared the concerns of other delegations since it believed that the question of development deserved to be approached on the basis of a consensus.

15. **Mr. Ammarin** (Jordan) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution and that it would vote in favour of the other draft resolutions on the question. It believed that, since socio-economic development and environmental protection were linked synergistically, the maintenance of economic efficiency was a crucial element of sustainable development.

16. *Draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.4 was withdrawn.*

17. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 95 (a).

(d) External debt crisis and development (*continued*) (A/C.2/52/L.8 and A/C.2/52/L.58)

Draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.58: Enhancing international cooperation towards a durable solution to the external debt problem of developing countries

18. **Mr. Abdellatif** (Egypt), Vice-Chairman, introducing draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.58, which had been drafted on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.8, suggested that the square brackets around the references to sustained economic growth and sustainable development in the thirteenth preambular paragraph and paragraphs 2 and 20 should be deleted so that the Committee could adopt the draft resolution.

19. **Mr. Winnick** (United States of America) said that his delegation would vote against the draft resolution for reasons which it had explained at the time of the previous vote.

20. **Mr. Mwakapugi** (United Republic of Tanzania), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that his delegation would vote in favour of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.58. He pointed out that the references to sustained economic growth and sustainable development already appeared in General Assembly resolution 51/164 and expressed surprise that terms which had been agreed upon should be called into question.

21. **Mr. Yu Qingtai** (China) said that his delegation fully supported the view expressed by the Tanzanian delegation. He asked the Secretariat to make the necessary corrections to the Chinese text of the draft resolution, in which the terms used to translate "sustained economic growth" and "sustainable development" did not exactly reflect the original English.

[*] The Greek delegation subsequently informed the Committee that it had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution; the delegations of Bulgaria, Mozambique and Slovenia subsequently stated that they would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

22. *At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.58, as orally revised.*

In favour:

Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

Romania.

23. *Draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.58, as orally revised, was adopted by 150 votes to 1, with 1 abstention.*[*]

24. **Mr. Prendergast** (Jamaica) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution because sustained economic growth and sustainable development were of paramount importance to the developing countries.

25. **Mr. Meyer** (Luxembourg), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that his delegation had voted in favour of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.58 for the reasons that he had explained after the adoption of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.48.

26. **Mr. Choulkov** (Russian Federation) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution and that it would vote in favour of the four other resolutions submitted on the subject for the reasons already mentioned. It remained committed to the concept of sustainable development as defined in the Agenda for Development.

27. **Mr. Ojimba** (Nigeria) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution and associated itself with the statement made by the representative of the United Republic of Tanzania on behalf of the Group of 77 and China. Like many African countries, Nigeria faced a problem of indebtedness which considerably impeded its development efforts. It urged the international community to attack that problem and regretted that one member of the Committee had withdrawn from the debate.

28. *Draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.8 was withdrawn.*

29. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had concluded its consideration of agenda item 95 (d) and of agenda item 95 as a whole.

Agenda item 96: Sectoral policy questions (*continued*)

(a) Industrial development cooperation (*continued*)

Draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.16 and A/C.2/52/L.40: Industrial development cooperation

30. **Mr. Abdellatif** (Egypt), Vice-Chairman, introducing draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.40, said that the text was the subject of a consensus and suggested that the square brackets around the phrase "sustained economic growth and sustainable development" in the fourth preambular paragraph should be deleted so that the Committee could adopt the draft resolution.

[*] The delegation of Romania subsequently informed the Committee that it had intended to vote in favour of the draft resolution; the delegation of Slovenia that it would have voted in favour of the draft resolution.

31. **Mr. Meyer** (Luxembourg), speaking on behalf of the European Union, indicated two omissions in the English text of the draft resolution under consideration. It had been agreed that the title of the draft resolution would be "Industrial development cooperation: Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa", and that, in paragraph 4, the word "agreed" should be inserted before the word "mandates".

32. **Mr. Ouattara** (Côte d'Ivoire) recalled that the fourth preambular paragraph had been the subject of negotiations during the informal consultations and therefore requested that the French text should reflect the language of the English version exactly; accordingly the words "joue un role déterminant" should be replaced by the words "constitute un élément clef".

33. **The Chairman** suggested that the Secretariat should make a similar amendment to the Spanish text.

34. **Mr. Winnick** (United States of America) recalled that consensus had not been reached on the terms "sustained economic growth" and "sustainable development"; accordingly, he requested a vote on the draft resolution under consideration for the reasons he had given in connection with draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.48.

35. **Mr. Mwakapugi** (United Republic of Tanzania), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, underscored the importance of the draft resolution under consideration; the notions of sustained economic growth and of sustainable development were interdependent and fundamental. The Group of 77 and China would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

36. *A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.40.*

In favour:

Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

United States of America.

Abstaining:

None.

37. *Draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.40, as orally amended, was adopted by 151 votes to 1.*

38. **Mr. Meyer** (Luxembourg), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that the member States of the Union had voted in favour of the draft resolution for the reasons that he had given in connection with the preceding draft resolutions.

39. **Mr. Diseko** (South Africa) pointed out that South Africa and the entire African continent attached very great importance to the industrialization process and to the concepts of "sustained economic growth" and "sustainable development".

40. *Draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.16 was withdrawn.*

41. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had completed its consideration of agenda item 96 (a).

Agenda item 97: Sustainable development and international economic cooperation (*continued*)

(a) Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership (*continued*)

Draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.11/Rev.1: Renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership

42. **Mr. Glanzer** (Austria), Vice-Chairman, said that with the exception of paragraph 2 which contained the phrases "sustained economic growth" and "sustainable development" that continued to pose problems, consensus had been reached on the entire draft resolution. He recommended it for adoption by the Committee.

43. **Mr. Winnick** (United States of America) requested that the draft resolution under consideration, which again contained the terms "sustained economic growth" and "sustainable development", should be put to the vote, citing the reasons he had given in connection with the previous votes. The Committee was in a paradoxical situation; the idea of a renewal of the dialogue was closely linked to the Agenda for Development and had already been the subject of lengthy debate; it was therefore regrettable that the consensus reached on the Agenda for Development did not extend to the draft resolution under consideration. His delegation would vote against it.

44. **Mr. Meyer** (Luxembourg), speaking on behalf of the European Union, recalled that the member States of the Union had taken part in the informal consultations on the draft resolution under consideration and that it had been agreed that, in paragraph 6 of the English text, the word "subsequent" would be replaced by "the following" before the words "high-level dialogue".

45. **Mr. Bahamondes** (Canada) said that the agreement had been to replace it by "following" not "the following".

46. **Mr. Mwakapugi** (United Republic of Tanzania), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, agreed that that was so, adding that the Group of 77 and China would vote in favour of the draft resolution.

47. *A recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.11/Rev.1*

In favour:

Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining:

None.

48. *Draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.11/Rev.1, as orally amended, was adopted by 151 votes to 2.*

49. **Mr. Meyer** (Luxembourg), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that the countries members of the Union had voted in favour of the draft resolution for the reasons stated previously.

50. **Mr. Hidayat** (Indonesia) said that the draft resolution just adopted was a procedural text aimed at ensuring the implementation of resolution 51/174, which the General Assembly had adopted by consensus at its preceding session. Since the idea of renewing the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership was not controversial, it was unfortunate that the draft resolution had been put to a vote.

51. **Mr. Yu Qingtai** (China) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution because promoting the renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership was in the interest of all countries. He, too, regretted that the draft resolution had not been adopted by consensus, and hoped that the countries which had voted against it would take a more positive attitude towards ensuring the follow-up of that text.

52. **Mr. Bahamondes** (Canada) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution and that it looked forward to the high-level dialogue to be held on the social and economic impact of globalization and interdependence and their policy implications, which was called for in paragraph 3.

(g) Women in development *(continued)* (A/C.2/52/L.17/Rev.1)

Draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.17/Rev.1: Women in development

53. **Mr. Glanzer** (Austria), Vice-Chairman, said that, following intensive informal consultations, agreement had been reached on the entire draft resolution except the third preambular paragraph, which was missing from the English-language version ("Reaffirming that gender equality is of fundamental importance for achieving sustained economic growth and sustainable development"). He recommended that the Committee should adopt the draft resolution.

54. **Mr. Meyer** (Luxembourg), speaking on behalf of the European Union, said that, in the second line of paragraph 12 of the English-language version, the word "and" should have been inserted between "family-friendly" and "gender-sensitive".

55. **Mr. Winnick** (United States of America) said that he had hoped that the missing paragraph would not be restored to the text, because his delegation attached great importance to the rest of the draft resolution, on which it had worked with a number of delegations.

56. His delegation regretted that it could not join the consensus on the draft resolution under consideration. It had worked with many delegations to ensure that the text addressed issues fundamental to women's participation in the economy, including women's and girls' education, equal rights and equal access to resources, the creation of positive investment climates, the integration of gender mainstreaming into programmes and policies and the implementation of income-generating activities.

57. However, if Governments did not place equal value on economic development, social development and environmental protection, development would not be sustainable and women would be among the casualties.

58. At the 1992 Earth Summit, Governments had adopted a programme of action for sustainable development worldwide. The participants had recognized that sustainable development required economic development, social development and environmental protection. Sustained economic growth was one component of sustainable development; it was not an equal concept. The importance of sustainable development had been reaffirmed at the 1995 World Summit for Social Development, in the Agenda for Development and at the special session of the General Assembly for the review and appraisal of the implementation of Agenda 21.

59. In the five years since the Earth Summit, some Governments had tried to achieve economic growth at the expense of social development and environmental protection. For that reason, his delegation could not accept the equation of "sustained economic growth" and "sustainable development" in the third preambular paragraph of the draft resolution. It therefore called for a vote on the draft resolution under consideration.

60. **Mr. Kamando** (United Republic of Tanzania), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that he welcomed the restoration of the third preambular paragraph because the issue to which it referred was of crucial importance in the context of international cooperation for development. He requested that the explanations he had given concerning the importance of the concepts of sustained economic growth and sustainable development should be reflected in the summary record of the meeting under that agenda item. The Group of 77 and China would vote in favour of the draft resolution under consideration.

61. *At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.17/Rev.1, as orally amended.*

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican

Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining:

None.

62. *The draft resolution was adopted by 153 votes to 2.*

63. **Mr. Schumacher** (Luxembourg) said that the explanations of vote which he had given for the preceding votes also applied to agenda item 97 (g).

64. **Ms. Ashipala-Musavyi** (Namibia), speaking in her capacity as coordinator for the Group of 77 and China, said that some members would have preferred that certain expressions which appeared in the text of the draft resolution should not have been used, but that, in a spirit of compromise, they had accepted the use of those expressions, while still reserving their position.

65. When Namibia had agreed to coordinate the preparation of the draft resolution on women in development, it had known that the task would be difficult because it involved factors related to culture, tradition and religion.

66. As a member of the Southern African Development Community, Namibia regretted that, while the integration of gender mainstreaming into all areas was being promoted, the claim had been made that sustained economic growth did not concern women. The concepts of sustained economic growth and sustainable development had been included in the draft insofar as sustained economic growth was essential for economic and social change and for the elimination of poverty, and, to achieve that end, women and men must reap the benefits of that process in conditions of equality.

67. **Mr. Amaziane** (Morocco), speaking also on behalf of Bahrain, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan, Kuwait, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen, said that, although those delegations had voted in favour of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.17/Rev.1, they had reservations about the provisions of paragraph 9 concerning equality in the area of inheritance. The delegations for which he spoke did not question the principle of equality between men and women in that area, but they did not interpret paragraph 9 to mean that men and women must receive equal shares; otherwise, they would have voted against the draft because it would have been incompatible with their domestic legislation. They had already stated their position on the subject in Beijing at the Fourth World Conference on Women.

68. **Mr. A'ala** (Syrian Arab Republic) said that it was regrettable that the Committee had had to put the draft resolution on women in development to a vote. His delegation had voted in favour of the draft because it attached great importance to the subject; however, bearing in mind the explanation given by the representative of Morocco on paragraph 9, his country supported the draft only insofar as that paragraph was in keeping with the conclusions of the Beijing Conference and did not infringe its laws on inheritance.

69. He also wished to draw attention to an error in the Arabic version of the title of the resolution.

Draft decision on the report of the Secretary-General (A/52/345)

70. **The Chairman** suggested that the Committee should adopt the following draft decision, under agenda item 97 (g): "The General Assembly takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on mainstreaming the gender perspective into economic policies (A/52/345)".

71. *It was so decided.*

72. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had thus completed consideration of agenda item 97 (g).

(h) Human resources development *(continued)* (A/C.2/52/L.31 and L.49)

Draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.31 and L.49: Developing human resources for development

73. **Mr. Glanzer** (Austria), Vice-Chairman, introducing draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.49, said that the draft was the outcome of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.31. The draft was a consensus text, except for the fifth preambular paragraph, which contained references in square brackets to the concepts of "sustained economic growth" and "sustainable development". He suggested that the square brackets should be deleted so as to enable the Committee to adopt the draft.

74. **Mr. Winnick** (United States of America) said that the draft resolution before the Committee was the last draft containing the two concepts just referred to. His delegation was once again unable to join the consensus. It wished to request that a vote should be taken on the draft, for the reasons that it had stated earlier.

75. **Mr. Kamando** (United Republic of Tanzania), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that the issue dealt with in the draft was of crucial importance; he therefore requested that the explanation provided earlier with respect to the importance of the concepts of sustained economic growth and sustainable development should also be placed on record under the sub-item under consideration.

76. *At the request of the representative of the United States of America, a recorded vote was taken on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.49, as orally amended.*

In favour:

Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Israel, United States of America.

Abstaining:

None.

77. *Draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.49, as orally amended, was adopted by 154 votes to 2, with no abstentions.*

78. **Mr. Meyer** (Luxembourg) and **Mr. Choulkov** (Russian Federation) said that their statements in explanation of vote on the preceding items also applied to draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.49.

79. **Mr. Prendergast** (Jamaica) said that his delegation had voted in favour of the draft resolution because it attached great importance to the issue. However, it was regrettable that the Committee had had to take a vote on a crucial issue that was of equal importance to developed and developing countries. The statement made by his delegation in explanation of vote in connection with the preceding draft resolutions also applied to the draft just adopted.

80. **Mr. March** (Australia) said that it was disappointing that the Committee had been unable to reach a consensus on such an important economic issue; putting the matter to a vote was not conducive to the establishment of the international partnerships that were essential for achieving sustainable development. That approach was all the more regrettable when viewed in the light of recent United Nations

discussions on major sustainable development issues, particularly in the context of the World Summit for Social Development, the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly and the Agenda for Development. His delegation had voted in favour of each of the six draft resolutions that had had to be put to a vote owing to the use of the terms "sustained economic growth" and "sustainable development". That was not consensus wording, and it was regrettable that wording acceptable to all could not have been adopted, as had been possible in the past. His delegation reaffirmed its support for pursuing sustainable development, and wished to recall in that connection the consensus that had emerged in the Agenda for Development on economic development, social development and protection of the environment; its interpretation of the agreed definition of the concept of sustainable development remained unchanged.

81. The statement in explanation of vote just made by his delegation also applied to the draft resolutions adopted earlier.

82. **Mr. Yu Qingtai** (China) said that it was regrettable that the Committee had had to put the draft to a vote; however, he welcomed the fact that the outcome of the vote showed that there was general agreement on the issue among the members of the international community. The developing countries had repeatedly stressed the importance of sustained economic growth, particularly for raising their populations' standard of living. His delegation sincerely hoped that the country that had decided not to join the consensus would reconsider its position and learn the necessary lessons in order to rejoin the international community.

83. *Draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.31 was withdrawn.*

84. **The Chairman** said that the Committee had thus completed consideration of agenda item 97 (h) and of agenda item 97 as a whole.

85. **Mr. Kamando** (United Republic of Tanzania), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that it was disappointing that the Committee had been unable to complete its work earlier owing to differences of opinion with the United States delegation on the draft resolutions adopted, with respect to the concepts of "sustained economic growth" and "sustainable development". In that connection, he wished to reiterate that, in order to be effective, any development process, but particularly in the developing countries, called for sustained economic growth over a long period of time; the developed countries should promote that process by means of the allocation of increased resources and the transfer of appropriate technology. For the United States, the fundamental principle was that sustainable development, which must depend on private sector initiatives, should be the driving force for rapid social development and protection of the environment in developing countries. Most delegations believed that such an approach was too restrictive and linked economic growth too closely to the requirements of social development and protection of the environment.

86. The Group of 77 and China were willing to negotiate in good faith, but their partner must also show the necessary political will; it was essential to bring about a true spirit of cooperation so that the Committee could carry out its work effectively.

Agenda item 98: Environment and sustainable development *(continued)*

(a) Implementation of decisions and recommendations of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (*continued*)

87. **The Chairman** said that the General Assembly would be informed that no draft resolutions had been submitted under the sub-item.

88. The Committee had thus completed consideration of agenda item 98 (a).

(b) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa *(continued)*

Draft resolutions A/C.2/52/L.22 and L.57: Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa

89. **The Chairman** drew attention to the statement of programme budget implications of the draft resolution under consideration contained in document A/C.2/52/L.54.

90. **Mr. Glanzer** (Austria), Vice-Chairman, introducing draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.57, said that the draft was the outcome of informal consultations on draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.22. He recommended the draft to the Committee for adoption, since it was a consensus text.

91. **Mr. Winnick** (United States of America) said that in recent years the Committee had been called on to adopt a number of draft resolutions on links between the United Nations system and the secretariats of the three conventions that had resulted from the UNCED process. On each occasion, his delegation had expressed concern, particularly

with respect to various provisions requiring that the cost of various services connected with those legal instruments should be financed from the regular programme budget of the United Nations.

92. It was appropriate for the United Nations to fund the activities of the interim secretariats of the conventions in question during their transition period, but once the transition had been completed their operating costs should be borne by the parties to the conventions. Consequently, his delegation was unable to endorse the wording of paragraph 17 of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.57, which authorized financing of conference-servicing costs from the regular budget of the United Nations beyond the period in which the interim Convention secretariat was to function; it therefore wished to request that that paragraph should be put to a vote.

93. However, his delegation reaffirmed its support for the implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification and remained determined to help fight desertification; it would continue its efforts, both bilaterally and multilaterally, with a view to achieving that goal.

94. **Mr. Schumacher** (Luxembourg) requested that the meeting should be suspended so that he could consult with the delegations of other States members of the European Union on the subject of the vote requested by the United States delegation on paragraph 17 of the draft under consideration.

95. **Mr. Kamando** (United Republic of Tanzania), speaking on behalf of the Group of 77 and China, said that it was regrettable that a vote had been requested on paragraph 17 of draft resolution A/C.2/52/L.57. At its first session, held recently in Rome, the Conference of the Parties to the Convention had decided to accept the offer of the German Government to host the permanent Convention secretariat at Bonn in 1999. The biennium to which reference was made was the 1998-1999 biennium; it was therefore hard to understand why the United States delegation had requested a vote, since it was on the basis of that biennium that delegations had reached agreement during the informal consultations. In view of the United States request for a vote, the Group of 77 and China also wished to request that the meeting should be suspended.

96. **Mr. Chouinard** (Canada) said that his delegation had joined the sponsors of the draft before the Committee and was therefore disappointed that a vote had been requested on paragraph 17.

97. **Mr. Biaou** (Benin), speaking as the coordinator for the Group of 77 and China, said that it was disappointing that the United States delegation had requested a vote on paragraph 17, particularly since the developing countries had made many concessions during the negotiations, to take account of the United States delegation's concerns; it was regrettable that the inflexible position adopted by that delegation took no account of the suffering of people in developing countries.

98. Desertification control contributed significantly to the achievement of sustainable development. The successful completion of the work of the Conference of Parties to the Convention, at its first session, was a milestone with respect to both the implementation of the Convention and the various programmes of action under preparation.

99. Ever since the adoption, in 1977, of the Nairobi Plan of Action to Combat Desertification, the Committee had not once had to put a draft resolution on that subject to a vote; that was a regrettable development that could be prejudicial to consideration of issues relating to the international instruments that had resulted from the Conference on Environment and Development. Solidarity and partnership should be given priority over all concerns relating to domestic politics. The principle of fulfilling international commitments must not be flouted when it came to the adoption of a draft resolution. It was to be hoped that the United States position would not constitute a precedent. He appealed to all delegations that had contributed to the successful outcome of the negotiations to support implementation of the Convention to Combat Desertification effectively.

The meeting rose at 1.05 p.m.